

MEMORANDUM – DENVER HEALTH & HOSPITAL AUTHORITY

TO:	City Council
CC:	
FROM:	Esther Lee Leach
DATE:	July 19th 2024
PURPOSE:	Appointments
PROCESS:	City Council Confirmation
PROJECT:	N/A
NEXT STEPS:	City Council Confirmation

BOARD/COMMISSION:

Denver Health & Hospital Authority

STAFF: Donna Lynne, CEO, Denver Health

CURRENT BOARD STATUS – 1 APPOINTMENTS

Denver Health and Hospital Authority (the “Authority”) was created by the Colorado legislature as a body corporate and political subdivision of the State of Colorado pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes § 25-29-101, et seq. (the “Act”). The Authority began operations on January 1, 1997 after having separated from the City and County of Denver (“the City”). On January 1, 1997, the City transferred substantially all of the healthcare programs, services and facilities of the City’s former Department of Health and Hospitals to the Authority. The Authority is governed by an eleven-member Board of Directors that is responsible for the operation of the Authority’s health system, including the Denver Health Medical Center.

Mayor Mike Johnston has approved the appointments of Chris Watney.

APPOINTMENT CANDIDATES

Chris Watney – for a term 08/12/24 – 08/11/29 or until a successor is duly appointed.



BIO: Chris Watney supports individuals, families and organizations in Colorado as a therapist and executive coach through her private practice, People & Possibilities, LLC.

Prior to founding People & Possibilities in 2017, Chris served as the President and CEO of the Colorado Children’s Campaign, a statewide nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy organization working to increase access to quality health care, early childhood and K-12 education for the state’s most vulnerable children. At the Colorado Children’s Campaign, she led efforts to change the state’s school financing formula to be more equitable, served on the state’s first Early Childhood Leadership Commission, served as a founder of Executives Partnering to Invest in Children and as a founding board member of Healthier Colorado, a nonprofit focused on raising the voices of Coloradans in the public policy process to improve the health of Colorado residents.

CURRENT BOARD

Richard James “Jim” Chavez (M)(H)	06-30-25
Thomas Kim (M)(A)	06-30-25
Hollie Velasquez-Horvath (F)(H)	06-30-25
Elias Provencio-Vasquez(M)(H)	06-30-25
Patricia Dean (F)(C)	06-30-26
Patti Klinge (F)(C)	06-30-26
Frank DeGruy (M)(C)	06-30-27
Doug Friednash, (M)(C)	06-30-27
Danielle Shoots (F)(AA)	06-30-27
Lilia Cervantes (F)(H)	06-30-27